

News Release

Turf Bowl Team at the U of M Crookston Finishes 24th out of 87 teams in National Competition Held Recently at Golf Course Superintendents Association of America Education and Trade Show

By ltollefs on Monday, February 28, 2011

The University of Minnesota Crookston Turf Bowl Team placed 24th out of 87 turf bowl teams from across the United States in the National Turf Bowl Competition held recently. Members of the team included: Theodore Gutman, a senior majoring in both golf and turf management and horticulture from Burlington, Iowa; Thomas Halver, a senior majoring in golf and turf management from Chaska, Minn.; Mark Michalski, a senior golf and turf management major from Silver Bay, Minn.; and Tammy Wroblewski, a triple major in golf and turf management, horticulture, and communications from Milwaukee, Wis.



The 3 ½ hour turf bowl exam is comprised of nine sections including identification (turfgrass, seed, soil, weed, insect, and disease), turfgrass growth and development, soil and soil fertility, weed management, disease management, insect management, turfgrass calculations, business management, and a case study essay. The competition was held during the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America Education and Trade Show on February 10, 2011, in Orlando, Fla.

The Crookston campus requires internships for students as part of its commitment to applied learning. Michalski interned at the U of M, Crookston in golf and turf management, during summer 2010, and Halver interned for at the Bluff Creek Golf Course in Chaska. Gutman interned at Spirit Hollow Golf Course, in Burlington, Iowa, and Wroblewski interned at the U of M Crookston in both golf and turf management and horticulture.

The advisor of the U of M Crookston Turf Bowl Team is Kristina S. Walker, Ph.D. She earned her doctoral and master's degrees in agronomy specializing in turfgrass management from Purdue University. Walker has been teaching courses in agronomy and turfgrass management since January 2009 at the Crookston Campus.

With a degree in golf and turf management, graduates are qualified for positions in the golf industry, sports field management, lawn care, sod production, grounds maintenance, sales or pursue an advanced degree. For more information on golf and turf management at the U of M Crookston website.

Today the University of Minnesota Crookston delivers 29 bachelor's degree programs, 18 minors, and more than 40 concentrations, including several online degrees, in the areas of agriculture and natural resources; business; liberal arts and education; and math, science and technology. With an enrollment of about 1,400 undergraduates from more than 25 countries and 40 states, the Crookston campus offers a supportive, close-knit atmosphere that leads to a prestigious University of Minnesota degree. "Small Campus. Big Degree." To learn more, visit www.umcrookston.edu.

In the photo (l to r): Tammy Wroblewski, Mark Michalski, Teddy Gutman, Tom Halver, with their advisor, Kristina Walker, Ph.D.

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